

SHADE LAMP AND METHOD

Abstract of the Disclosure

A dental shade lamp for visually comparing a dental shade to a natural tooth comprises a housing having an aperture formed through the housing and a light source for illuminating the dental shade and natural tooth. The aperture provides an unobstructed view of the dental shade and natural tooth while maintaining the shade lamp in close proximity to the dental shade and natural tooth. The light source may be fluorescent light bulbs positioned adjacent the aperture that emit light having a color temperature of greater than about 6,000 K, to more closely approximate natural light conditions, and an illuminance intensity of greater than about 75 foot-candles, to limit the effects from ambient lighting conditions. In this way, a more accurate visual comparison can be made resulting in an accurate match between prosthetic teeth and natural teeth.